



ROBERT HENRY, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO HONOR BLACK CIVIL WAR REGIMENT

HARTFORD – The 1989 movie “Glory” brought national attention to the crucial role African Americans played in the Civil War. However, the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts was not the only Black regiment to defend the North’s cause.

In observance of Black History Month, Superintendent Robert Henry and Councilman Kenneth Kennedy, Jr. will join descendants of the 29th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry Regiment (Colored) for a recognition ceremony. The event, which will be held on Wednesday, February 5, at 1:00 p.m., will take place at the Connecticut State Library, 231 Capitol Avenue.

The event will also launch the 29th Connecticut Civil War Project, a district program that will seek to form a commemorative unit of the 29th Connecticut that will increase awareness of the role the regiment played in the War. The project will also work with historians, Civil War organizations and historical societies continue the documentation of the 29th Connecticut’s history.

The February 5th program will include the descendants of the 29th and 54th regiments, as well as Hartford Public Schools students, who will re-enact significant events of the 29th’s history. Representatives from the Connecticut Historical Society and the Connecticut Historical Commission will also provide remarks.

The 29th Connecticut was comprised of former slaves, free blacks and Native Americans from Connecticut and other states. Their participation contributed to the victory of the Union Army, and hastened the advent of freedom for millions of slaves.

For more information on the 29th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry regiment (Colored), visit <http://quicksitebuilder.cnet.com/mrben1/29thregtconn/>.

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